

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

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NEA-06 EUR-10 DPW-01 IO-03 SP-01 PM-03 L-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 AID-10

OMB-01 DRC-01 ( ISO ) W

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O R 241010Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4023

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CDR USSAG NKP IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLUL HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO/SAIGON/AOSOP-OR

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 5336

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT APRIL 17-23  
1974.

1. PART I SUMMARY (CONFIDENTIAL)

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR 1 INCREASED AS THE COMMUNISTS MOUNTED GROUND ATTACKS IN ALL THREE SOUTHERN PROVINCES. TOTAL INCIDENTS WERE THE HIGHEST FOR THE YEAR, WITH CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES UP SHARPLY. IN MR 2 OVERALL ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT LAST WEEK'S REDUCED LEVEL. HEAVY FIGHTING OCCURRED HOWEVER AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK AS A GVN RANGER BATTALION WAS DRIVER FROM A FIRE-SUPPORT BASE NEAR PLEIME IN PLEIKU PROVINCE; THE BASE WAS LATER RETAKEN. IN MR 3 TOTAL INCIDENTS DROPPED BUT SHARP FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE CAM MY AREA OF SOUTHERN LONG KHANH PRONVICE AS ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 18TH DIV SOUGHT TO SURROUND AND INFLECT HEAVY CASUALTIES ON TWO NVA REGIMENTS OPERATING IN THE AREA. ELSEWHERE IN MR 3 HEAVY COMMUNIST PRESSURE CONTINUED ON THE GVN RANGER CAMP AT DUC HUE. IN ACTION RELATED TO THE BESIEGED BASE VNAF LOST ONE L-19 AND ONE A-1 AIRCRAFT TO SA-7 FIRE AND HAD ONE F-5A AND AT LEAST THREE HELICOPTERS DAMAGED BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED SHARPLY IN MR 4 WITH MOST OF THE CHANGE DUE TO A SHARP RISE IN ATTACKS BY FIRE AND HARASSMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN DELTA PROVINCES OF KIEN GIANG.BAC LIEU AND CHUONG THIEN. ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG CONTINUED AT A HIGH LEVEL. DELTA-WIDE, THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS AND GVN CASUALTIES NEARLY DOUBLED. IN THE TPJOK THE BOMBARDMENT AND FALL OF TONG LE CHAN HAVE CAUSED THE GVN TO BE LESS GENEROUS IN ITS APPLICATION OF THE 11 POINT PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES ACCORDED TO THE COMMUNIST DELEGATION AND TO TAKE A LESS PERMISSIVE APPROACH TO "PRG" BEHAVIOR IN TPJMC MEETINGS. AS A RESULT OF THE GVN RESTRICTION OF "PRG" DELEGATION PRIVILEGES THE "PRG" DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE IN ICCS INVESTIGATORY ACTIVITIES, THUS FURTHER DEFERRING RESUMPTION OF THE ICCS-TPJMC INVESTIGATION OF THE CAI LAY INCIDENT AS WELL AS ALL OTHER BACK-  
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LOGGED INVESTIGATIONS.

PART II TPJMC. (UNCLASSIFIED)

2. WITH THE LOSS OF TONG LE CHAN THE GVN HAS DECIDED TO TAKE A LESS PERMISSIVE APPROACH TO "PRG" BEHAVIOR IN THE TPJMC. THERE ARE NO PLANS TO SUSPEND TPJMC MEETINGS OR EVEN TO WALK OUT OF INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS BY THE GVN DOES WITH TO FORCE THE "PRG" TO

ADDRESS THE BUSINESS AT HAND: ITS REPRESENTATIVE WILL INTERVENE TO REDIRECT HIS "PRG" COUNTERPART WHENEVER HE LAUNCHES INTO A SUBJECT NOT GERMANE TO THE AGENDA OR TO DISCUSSION OF AN AGENDA NOT RELATED TO THE TPJMC MANDATE. THE "PRG" WALKED OUT OF THE APRIL 16 MEETING AND THE PARTIES FAILED TO AGREE ON AN AGENDA ON APRIL 19 AND 23.

3. THE GVN ACTION TO CURTAIL THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS' PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES (P&I) SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN UNEXPECTED, AS THE GVN HAD REPEATEDLY WARNED THE "PRG" THAT P&I MUST BE RECIPROCAL. THE GVN IS NO LONGER WILLING TO FACILITATE SELF SERVING COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES WHILE THE "PRG" REFUSES TO RESPOND TO CONCRETE GVN PROPOSALS RELATED TO THE CEASEFIRE: ACCORDINGLY THE GVN HAS SUSPENDED THE LOC NINH LIAISON FLIGHTS BUT HAS INFORMED THE ICCS CHAIRMAN THAT THE GVN WILL PROVIDE LIAISON FLIGHTS TO PERMIT COMMUNIST COORDINATION ON SPECIFIC JMC/ICCS BUSINESS. SIMILARLY THE GVN ALSO HAS CUT TELEPHONE LINES WHICH THE COMMUNISTS HAD USED PRIMARILY TO CONTACT WESTERN NEWS MEDIA. IN THEIR PLACE THE GVN ATTEMPTED TO INSTALL DIRECT LINES BETWEEN THE "PRG'S" CAMP DAVIS COMPOUND AND THE INSTALLATIONS WITH WHICH THEY HAVE A NEED TO COMMUNICATE FOR JMC/ICCS RELATED BUSINESS AND OFFERED OFF BASE COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH A GVN SWITCHBOARD. "PRG" REPRESENTATIVES HAVE REFUSED BOTH AND ONLY LINES BETWEEN THE FOUR FPJMT DELEGATIONS NOW REMAIN OPERATIONAL. THE GVN ALSO SUSPENDED THE WEEKLY "PRG" PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WAS MUTUALLY AGREED ON THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BUT NOT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE P&I. COMMUNIST CHARGES THAT THEIR WATER AND ELECTRICITY HAVE BEEN CUT OFF BY THE GVN ARE TOTALLY FALSE AS WERE PREVIOUS SUCH CHARGES.

PART III ICCS (UNCLASSIFIEDL)

4. AS A RESULT OF GVN RESTRICTION OF "PRG" DELEGATION PRIVILEGES  
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THE "PRG" DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ICCS INVESTIGATORY ACTIVITIES THUS FURTHER DEFERRING RESUMPTION OF THE ICCS TPJMC INVESTIGATION OF THE CAI LAY INCIDENT AS WELL AS ALL OTHER BACKLOGGED INVESTIGATIONS. THE NEXT ICCS PLENARY IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 26 TO DISCUSS THE APRIL 1974 MARCH 1975 ICCS BUDGET AND IRANIAN CHAIRMAN OF THE MONTH SADRI HOPES FOR QUICK APPROVAL.

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CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB IMMEDIATE

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 5 SAIGON 5336

LIMDIS

PART IV -- MR 1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HEADQUARTERS THERE WERE 100 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS LAST WEEK. THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 13 OVER THE PREVIOUS WEEK'S TOTAL AND IS THE HIGHEST TOTAL IN I CORPS FOR THE YEAR TO DATE. GVN CASUALTIES: 77 KIA, 338 WIA. NVA/VC LOSSES: 140 KIA, 4 RETURNEES.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OF NOTE IN QUANG TRI. IN THUA THIEN FOR THE SECOND WEEK MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED NEAR MO TAU MOUNTAIN AS ELEMENTS OF THE 54TH GEGIMENT OF THE 1ST ARVN DIVISION ATTEMPT TO TAKE HILL 300 IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL THE INFILTRATION CORRIDOR TO THE LOWLANDS AND TO KEEP THE ENEMY AWAY FROM Q.L. 1. ONE CULVERT ON THE RAILROAD BETWEEN DANANG AND HUE WAS BLOWN UP DURING THE WEEK.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN ENEMY ACTIVITY IN ALL OF THE 3 SOUTHERN PROVINCES IN I CORPS WITH THE HIGHPOINT REACHED ON THE MORNING OF ARIL 21. IN QUANG NAM THE ENEMY LAUNCHED FOUR GROUND ATTACKS IN DIEN BAN DISTRICT ON APRIL 21. IN DUC DUC DISTRICT TWO SPANS OF THE GIAO THUY BRIDGE ON PROVINCIAL ROAD 537 WERE BLOWN UP. TWO ATTEMPTS ON BRIDGES ON Q.L. 1 WERE FOILED DURING THE WEEK.

4. IN NORMALLY QUIET QUANG TIN SIX GROUND ATTACKS WERE REPORTED AGAINST PF PLATOONS ON APRIL 21 AND BA BAU BRIDGE ON Q.L. 1 WAS 70 PERCENT DAMAGED AT THAT TIME. TRAFFIC HAS SINCE BEEN RESTORED. FIVE CIVILIANS WERE ABDUCTED IN TAM KY DISTRICT DURING THE ATTACK.

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5. IN QUANG NGAI ON APRIL 21 THE COMMUNISTS USING PROVINCIAL MAIN FORCE AND DISTRICT LOCAL FORCE UNITS, STAGED A SERIES OF THREE COORDINATED ATTACKS IN THE CONG HOA VALLEY OF NGHIA HANH DISTRICT. THE SAME DAY THEY ROCKETED NGHIA HANH DISTRICT TOWN THREE TIMES, BUT NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED. THE BULK OF THE FIGHTING IN QUANG NGAI OCCURRED IN AREAS THE VIET CONG HAVE LONG REGARDED AS THEIR OWN TURF. THE UPSURGE CAME AS NO SURPRISE TO CORPS COMMANDER LT. GENERAL NGO QUANG TRUONG, WHO HAS BEEN EXPECTING A COMMUNIST REACTION TO THE PACIFICATION

CAMPAIGN OF THE ARVN 2ND DIVISION IN MO DUC AND DUC PHO DISTRICTS.

6. ICCS:

IN REGION II THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS FROM THE TAM KY TEAMO OBSERVED BA BAU BRIDGE SITE.

PART V -- MR 2

1. STATISTICAL SUMMARY; THERE WERE 130 INCIDENTS BRIEFED IN THE MR DURING THE WEEK, A DECLINE OF ONE FROM THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD. THE INTENSITY OF FIGHTING WAS HIGH AT THE START OF THE WEEK BUT DECLINED AFTER APRIL 16, AS GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE DRIVEN FROM A FIRE SUPPORT BASE IN PLEIKU PROVINCE. THE BASE WAS REOCCUPIED BY A RECONNAISSANCE UNIT ON APRIL 22. AS USUAL, MOST INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN BINH DINH (43) AND PLEIKU (34). THIS WEEK THE TWO ACCOUNTED FOR MORE THAN HALF THE REGION-WIDE TOTAL. ACTIVITY IN QUANG DUC INCREASED, AS 22 INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN THAT PROVINCE. INCIDENTS WERE ALSO REPORTED IN PHU YEN QELN KONTUM (8), NINH THUAN (4), BINH THUAN (3), DARLAC (1), KHAN HOA (1) AND LAM DONG (1). RVNAF CASUALTIES FOR THE WEEK WERE PLACED AT 65 KIA, 154 WIA AND 32 MIA, COMPARED TO 44KIA 205 WIA AND 17 MIA FOR THE PREVIOUS WEEK. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE PLACED AT 577 KIA, UP FROM 504. TWO POW'S WERE TAKEN, A DROP FROM LAST WEEK'S 99 AIR STRIKES WERE REPORTED IN KONTUM (94), PLEIKU (79), BINH DINH (34), QUANG DUC (2) AND DARLAC (2).

2. PLEIKU/KONTUM: LAST WEEK'S SITREP REPORTED HEAVY FIGHTING AROUND FIRE SUPPORT BASE 711 NORTH OF PLEIME IN PLEIKU PROVINCE. THE 82ND RANGER BATTALION WITHDREW FROM THE BASE ON APRIL 16, CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTING THAT IT HAD BEEN BOMBARDED BY ARTILLERY CONTAINING LETHAL GAS (USE OF GAS AT FSB 711 IS NOT CONFIRMED.) FIGURES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INDICATE THAT THE RANGER BATTALION AND SUPPORTING UNITS SUFFERED 68 KIA, 76 WIA AND 85 MIA AND LOST 14 APC'S. 1 TANK AND TWO 155MM HOWITZERS. DESPITE THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE 22ND DIVISION'S 42ND AND 47TH REGIMENTS TO THE AREA IN AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT A COMMUNIST WITHDRAWAL AND ENGAGE THEM IN FURTHER BATTLE, CONTACTS HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY LIGHT SINCE THE 16TH. AN ARVN RECONNAISSANCE UNIT REOCCUPIED FSB 711 ON APRIL 22. KONTUM PROVINCE WAS QUIET WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BOMBING ALONG THE VO DINH/ KON BRAIH ROAD, WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO RESTRAIN  
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O R 241010Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4025

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

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LIMDIS

3. BINIDINH/PHU YENC MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED IN BINH DINH

PROVINCE, BUT THERE WERE NO MAJOR BATTLES. MININGS, BOOBY TRAPS AND MORTAR ATTACKS CONTINUE TO TAKE THEIR TOLL, PARTICULARLY IN TAM QUAN DISTRICT, WHERE THE RVNAF SUFFERED 9 KIA AND 27 WIA A SINGLE SOLID GROUND CONTACT. ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 17, DEMOLITION CHARGES DESTROYED TWO SPANS OF THE BONG SON BRIDGE, LOCATED ON QL 1 IN HOAI NHON DISTRICT. THERE WAS NO GROUND ATTACK ACCOMPANYING THE DEMOLITION, BUT SOME 60 FAMILIES FLED TO QUI NHON, APPARENTLY FEARING A REPEAT OF THE 1972 DEBACLE. RECENT TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN VPHU CAT DISTRICT ARE HAVING AN EFFECT, AS NINE HAMLET CHIEFS HAVE TENDERED THEIR RESIGNATIONS. THE PRINCIPAL REASON GIVEN IS THE DISTRICT CHIEF'S INSISTANCE THAT VILLAGE AND HAMLET OFFICIALS SPEND THE NIGHT IN THEIR LOCALITIES. DURING THE WEEK THE COMMUNISTS ASSASSINATED ONE VILLAGE CHIEF AND ONE VIS CADRE. ACTIVITY IN PHU YEN PROVINCE CONTINUES TO BE CHARACTERIZED BY RVNAF OPERATIONS ON THE FRINGES OF COMMUNIST DOMINATED AREA SAND COMMUNIST ATTEMPTS TO COLLECT A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE RICE CROP. INTERDICTION OF GVM LOC'S, REPORTED IN LAST WEEK'S SITREP, WAS NOT A PROBLEM DURING THE WEEK.

4. OTHER AREAS: THE ATTEMPT OF THE 23RD DIVISION'S 45TH AND 53RD REGIMENTS TO RETAKE BU PRANG/BU BONG, IN QUANG DUC PROVINCE. IS PROGRESSING SLOWLY AND RESULTING IN SMALL DAILY CONTACTS. HIGHWAY 14 FROM MR III TO KIEN DUC DISTRICT REMAINS OPEN. IN LAM DONG PROVINCE, OUR PROVREP REPORTS 6 INCIDENTS WITHIN AN AREA OF 4 SQUARE KILOMETERS, WITH A PATTERN SUGGESTING THE COMMUNISTS ARE TARGETING THE INSTALLATION AND RENOVATION OF THE DA NHIM/SAIGON POWER LINE. THE TUYEN DUC PROVINCE CHIEF AGREES THAT THIS IS THE CASE AND HAS REQUESTED THAT HIS RF NOW ASSIGNED TO BINH DINH BE RETURNED TO TUYEN DUC FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A PORTION OF THE LINE. THE KHANH HOA PROVINCE CHIEF AND THE MAYOR OF CAM RANH ALSO PERCEIVE INCREASED THREATS IN THEIR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND HAVE REQUESTED THE RETURN OF RF UNITS TO THEIR CONTROL (CONTACTS IN KHANH HOA/CAM RANH HAVE BEEN LIGHT AND REPORTS OF A COMMUNIST BUILD-UP IN THE AREA ARE UNCONFIRMED.)

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5. ICCS: THE ONLY ACTIVITY NOTED DURING THE WEEK WAS A CHANGE OF COMMAND RECEPTION/DINNER FOR THE CHIEF OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION IN PLEIKU, AND A TRIP BY THE PLEIKU HUNGARIAN DELEGATION TO KONTUM AND BEN HET. FOLLOWING THE BEN HET VISIT, THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES CAUGHT AN AFTERNOON FLIGHT TO SAIGON.

PART VI -- MR 3

1. ALTHOUGH THE INTENSITY OF CLASHES IN MR 3 REMAINED HIGH, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MILITARY INCIDENTS DROPPED TO 263 COMPARED WITH 294 LAST WEEK. THERE WERE 124 ATTACKS BY FIRE (131 THE PREVIOUS WEEK), 44 GROUND CONTACTS (60), AND 25 COMBINED ABF AND GROUND INCIDENTS (7). MININGS DECLINED TO 31, SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW THE NORMAL RANGE. SMALL ARMS HARASSMENT, SAPPER ATTACKS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS



INCIDENTS REGISTERED 40. COMMUNIST ARTILLERY FIRED AT LEAST 4003 MIXED ROUNDS (INCLUDING MORTAR) WHILE RVNAF EXPENDED 43,040 (ALMOST DOUBLE THE 22,426 ROUNDS USED THE PREVIOUS WEEK). VNAF REPORTED 303 A-1 AND F-5 SORTIES DURING THIS PERIOD, CONCENTRATED MAINLY AGAINST TARGETS AROUND DUC HUE, CAM MY AND SELECTED AREAS ALONG THE MR 3 WESTERN FRONTIER. CASUALTIES WERE UP ON BOTH SIDES. THE GVN COUNTED 86 KIA, 416 WIA AND 25 MIA COMPARED TO LAST WEEK'S 66 KIA, 337 WIA AND 43 MIA. REPORTED COMMUNIST LOSSES JUMPED TO 341 KIA, 5 CIA AND 3 RALLIERS (WELL ABOVE THE 142 KIA, 6 CIA AND 4 RALLIERS A WEEK EARLIER).

2. THE MAJOR ACTION IN MR 3 THIS WEEK WAS IN THE CAM MY AREA OF SOUTHERN LONG KHANH WHERE ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 18TH DIVISION HAVE INFLICTED HEAVY CASUALTIES AND APPEAR TO HAVE SURROUNDED THE NVA 274TH INDEPENDENT REGIMENT. A BATTALION OF THE 33RD NVA REGIMENT, WHICH MOVED FROM PHUOC TUY TO LONG KHANH TO ASSIST THE 274TH, IS REPORTED TO HAVE ALSO TAKEN CASUALTIES IN THIS AREA. ARVN REPORTS INDICATE THAT IN THIS OPERATION, BETWEEN APRIL 16 AND 23, FRIENDLY FORCES HAVE KILLED 279 COMMUNISTS (INCLUDING 99 BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY ARTILLERY OR AIR) AND CAPTURED THREE WHILE LOSING 34 KIA AND 111 WIA. THROUGH THIS ACTION MR 3 HQ HOPES TO RENDER BOTH THE 274TH AND THE 33RD INEFFECTIVE FOR SOME TIME.

3. WHILE THERE WERE NO NVA/VC GROUND ASSAULTS AGAINST THE DUC HUE  
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RANGER CAMP THIS PERIOD, COMMUNIST GUNNERS CONTINUED TO POUND THE CAMP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK FIRING WELL OVER 100 ROUNDS OF 122MM, 102MM AND 85MM ARTILLERY AS WELL AS 82MM MORTAR AND 122MM ROCKETS. WITH ALL SURFACE ROUTES TO THE CAMP CUT OFF, THE RANGERS ARE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON AIR SUPPORT FOR RESUPPLY. DURING THE WEEK, VNAF REPORTED ONE A-1 AND ONE L-19 LOST TO SA-7'S AND ONE F-5A AND AT LEAST THREE HELICOPTERS DAMAGED BY COMMUNIST AA IN ACTION OVER DUC HUE. ON APRIL 20 TWO BATTALIONS OF THE ARVN 25TH DIVISION, OPERATING BETWEEN THE RANGER BASE AND DUC HUE DISTRICT TOWN, WERE SUBJECTED TO A BARRAGE OF OVER 300 ROUNDS OF MIXED ARTILLERY RESULTING IN 39 ARVN WIA AND 19 MISSING WITH OVER TWENTY WEAPONS LOST. THE 5TH NVA DIVISION, LOCATED IN THE PARROT'S BEAK OF CAMBODIA, MAINTAINS ITS THREAT TO THE BESIEGED RANGER CAMP AND THE DUC HUE AREA WEST OF THE VAM CO DONG RIVER.

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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB IMMEDIATE

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

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LIMDIS

4. ELSEWHERE IN HAU NGHIA, NVA/VC CONDUCTED NUMEROUS ATTACKS BY FIRE AGAINST RVNAF OUTPOSTS IN TRANG BANG DISTRICT WITH THE HEAVIEST ACTION TAKING PLACE AT RF POSITIONS AT ONG DAM, CHA TAY AND BO HEO. COMMUNIST ELEMENTS FIRED A RECOILESS RIFLE AGAINST AN ARMORED TEAM OF THE 318TH MOBILE FORCE RESULTING IN A LOSS FOR ARVN OF ONE KIA, TWO WIA AND ONE M-48 TANK DESTROYED.

5. USUALLY TRANQUIL BINH TUY PROVINCE REPORTED A FLARE-UP OF ACTIVITY EARLY IN THE WEEK AT RF OUTPOSTS IN THE VICINITY OF ROUTE 1. IN ONE INCIDENT AN NVA/VC FORCE MOUNTED A COMBINED MORTAR ATTACK AND GROUND ASSAULT ON AN RF CAMP RESULTING IN GVN LOSSES OF 13 KIA (THREE CIVILIANS), 10 WIA (2 CIVILIANS), AND 2 MIA (ONE CIVILIAN) WITH TWO GMC TRUCKS DESTROYED. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE REPORTED AS NINE KILLED.

6. OF THE 61 FEMALE LABORERS KIDNAPPED FROM THE MICHELIN PLANTATION IN TRI TAM DISTRICT, BINH DUONG, TWO WEEKS AGO, 49 WERE RELEASED BACK TO GVN TERRITORY, FOUR ESCAPED FROM COMMUNIST CAPTIVITY, AND THE REST LISTED AS

MISSING. ACCORDING TO NATIONAL POLICE REPORTS, THOSE WHO WERE RELEASED HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA AND TOLD NOT TO COOPERATE WITH THE GVN, I.E. NOT TO DIG TANK TRAPS, BUT WERE NOT USED AS FORCED LABOR.

7. ICCS. BOTH INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR TEAMS FROM AN LOC DUE TO RECENT INCREASES OF ARTILLERY AND MORTAR FIRE NEAR THE SUB-REGIONAL TEAM SITE. INDODEL DEPARTED APRIL 18 AND WAS FOLLOWED BY IRANDEL FEW DAYS LATER. ACCORDING TO INDODEL REGION V CHIEF, THE INDONESIANS EXPECT TO RETURN TO AN LOC SOON, BUT THE DECISION WILL BE MADE BY SAIGON HEADQUARTERS. THE INDONESIANS CONDUCTED FOUR "OBSERVATIONS" THIS WEEK, TWO EACH AT BEN CAT AND TAN AN. INDODEL ALSO REPORTED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE ICCS FACT FINDING TEAM WAS SPLIT ON THE QUESTION OF REMAINING AL LAM SON AND CU CHI WITH POLDEL AND HUNGDEL MEMBERS RECOMMENDING WITHDRAWAL, WHILE INDODEL AND IRANDEL MEMBERS RECOMMENDED CONTINUATION AT THESE SITES. (DOG BITES MAN.) FINAL DECISIONS HAD NOT BEEN REACHED AT THE CLOSE OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.

PART VII -- MR 4

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL ACTIVITY: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA INCREASED SHARPLY. MOST OF THE INCREASE WAS DUE TO A SHARP RISE IN ABF'S AND HARASSMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN DELTA. BAC LIEU AND CHUONG THIEN WERE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE AND KIEN GIANG INCIDENTS INCREASED GREATLY. DINH TUONG REMAINED ACTIVE. KIEN TUONG PROVINCE FORCES CONTINUE ON THE ALERT FOR POSSIBLE VC/NVA ATTACKS FROM ACROSS CAMBODIAN BORDER. FOR THE ENTIRE DELTA, CORPS REPORTS 534 INCIDENTS (242 LAST WEEK) INCLUDING 67 GROUND ATTACKS (38), INFILTRATION (NONE LAST WEEK), 320 ABF'S (116), 127 HARASSMENTS (73), 5 SABOTAGE (2) AND 13 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (SAME AS LAST WEEK). GVN LOSSES INCREASED ACCORDINGLY, WHILE THERE WAS A LESS DRAMATIC RISE IN VC/NVA LOSSES. CORPS REPORTS GVN LOSSES AS 237 KIA (136 LAST WEEK), 888 WIA (573), 128 MIA (5), AND 13 CREW-SERVED (2) AND 303 INDIVIDUAL (98) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 563 VC/NVA KIA (498 LAST WEEK), 35 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (11) AND 19 CREW-SERVED (8) AND 158 INDIVIDUAL (156) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) DINH TUONG: ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG CONTINUED AT A HIGH LEVEL. AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GROUND ATTACKS AND GVN-INITIATED OPERATIONS RESULTED IN FEWER GVN MILITARY LOSSES, BUT CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AND ABUDCTIONS ROSE. FOUR OB'S WERE OVERRUN, 2 IN CAI BE DISTRICT AND 2 IN SAM GIANG. TWO SNIPING INCIDENTS OCCURRED ON HIGHWAY 4. THE FIRST OCCURRED ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 18 IN TAN CUU NGHIA (V), BEN TRANH (D) NORTH OF MY THO. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED. IN THE SECOND INCIDENT, A ROADBLOCK WAS BUILT ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 19 IN CHAU THANH DISTRICT. WHEN PF CAME TO CLEAR IT AT 2130H THEY CLASHED WITH A VC FORCE RESULTING IN 2 PF KIA AND 1 WIA. ANOTHER SNIPING OCCURRED ON ROUTE 24 IN CHO GAO DISTRICT THE EVENING OF APRIL 20: ONE RF WAS WOUNDED. IN MY THO ITSELF, EXPLOSIVES DAMAGED A

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NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE AND WOUNDED TWO. VC PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED IN THE 5TH WARD OF MY THO CITY THE NIGHT OF APRIL 18. IN CHAU THANH DISTRICT (ADJACENT TO MY THO) A VC ATTACK ON PHUOC THANH VILLAGE RESULTED IN ONE PF KILLED AND A HAMLET CHIEF, ONE PSDF AND TWO NATIONAL POLICE WOUNDED. IN LONG BINH HAMLET, LONG AN (V), CHAU THANH (D), 4 PSDF SET OFF AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE DESTROYING THE VILLAGE OFFICE AND TOOK 20 WEAPONS AND SOME DOCUMENTS.

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

NEA-06 EUR-10 DPW-01 IO-03 SP-01 PM-03 L-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 AID-10

OMB-01 DRC-01 /079 W

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O R 241010Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4027

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

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CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER  
COMUSMACHTAI  
DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR  
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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(C) NORTHERN DELTA: KIEN PHONG WAS QUIET DURING THE FIRST PART OF THE WEEK BUT SEVERAL GROUND ATTACKS AND SHELLINGS OCCURRED IN HONG NGU DISTRICT LATE IN THE REPORTING PERIOD. THREE OUTPOSTS, ALL IN THE CAI CAI REGION, WERE OVERRUN BETWEEN APRIL 19 AND 22, WHILE TWO OTHER OUTPOSTS THERE WERE UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE. THERE WERE ALSO SCATTERED INCIDENTS IN DONG TIEN, KIEN VAN AND MY AN DISTRICTS. KIEN PHONG S-2 BELIEVES THE CAI CAI ATTACKS MAY BE A DIVERSIONARY PRELUDE TO ATTACKS IN MY AN AND KIEN VAN. THE Z-15 AND Z-18 NVA BATTALIONS AND 502A AND 502B LOCAL MAIN FORCE BATTALIONS ARE STILL IN THE KIEN PHONG (#)

PROVINCE REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET WITH THE MAIN VC/NVA ACTIVITY CONSISTING OF THE SHELLING OF THE 449 RF BATTALION WHICH HAS BEEN OPERATING AGAINST INFILTRATION ROUTE 1-C IN THE EXTREME WEST OF THE PROVINCE. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, ALL FIVE RF BATTALIONS EXCEPT FOR THREE COMPANIES ARE LOCATED ALONG THE CAMBODIAN BORDER IN ANTICIPATION OF EXPECTED LARGE-SCALE VC/NVA MOVEMENT FROM CAMBODIA INTO KIEN TUONG. ACTIVITY THERE SO FAR HAS REMAINED LOW.

(D) CENTRAL DELTA: IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE, BEN TRE, THE PROVINCE CAPITAL, WAS MORTARED FOR THE THIRD TIME THIS YEAR. TWO ROUNDS HIT AN RF BILLET AREA WOUNDING TWO MEN. ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED IN THE PROVINCE CONSISTED WHOLLY OF HARASSMENTS AND BOOBY TRAP INCIDENTS. ACTIVITY IN SA DEC DECREASED WITH MOST INCIDENTS CONTINUING TO RESULT FROM BOOBY TRAPS. IN THE ONLY GROUND ATTACK REPORTED, THE PHU HUNG HAMLET CHIEF (PHU HUU VILLAGE, DUC TON DISTRICT) WAS KILLED IN AN ASSAULT ON THE HAMLET OFFICE PURPORTEDLY CARRIED OUT WITH THE ASSISTANCE  
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OF A PSDF IN THE OFFICE. PHONG DINH PROVINCE WAS RELATIVELY ACTIVE WITH A HIGH NUMBER OF ABF'S REPORTED. IN THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT, TRUONG THUXPAHAMLENJS TAM VILLAGE, THUAN NHOM DISTRICT) RECEIVED FOUR ROUNDS OF 60MM MORTAR CAUSING FOUR CIVILIAN DEATHS. ACTIVITY IN VINH BINH INCREASED WITH 5 GROUND ATTACKS REPORTED, ALL IN CANG LONG DISTRICT. IN ONE SIGNIFICANT FRIENDLY OPERATION, THE 04 AND 472 RF BATTALIONS MADE CONTACT WITH A VC UNIT WHICH RESULTED IN 11 VC KIA WHILE SECTOR FORCES SUFFERED ON RF KIA AND 9 WIA.

VINH LONG ALSO EXPERIENCED A SLIGHT INCREASE IN ACTIVITY DUE IN PART TO A HIGHER NUMBER OF GVN OPERATIONS. VC/NVA LOSSES INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY WHILE GVN LOSSES WERE STABLE.

(E) SOUTHERN DELTA: INCIDENTS IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, CONSISTING MOSTLY OF ABF'S AND HARASSMENTS, INCREASED SHARPLY FROM 16 INCIDENTS LAST WEEK TO 90 THIS WEEK. THERE WAS NO INCREASE IN GROUND ATTACKS. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT, A COORDINATED ABF AND GROUND ATTACK AGAINST A GVN UNIT IN VINH CHAU DISTRICT BY THE VC PHU LOI I BATTALION AND A SWEEP OF THE SAME AREA BY RF RESULTED IN 14 GVN KIA, 28 WIA, 10 MIA AND 34 VC KIA. CHUONG THIEN REPORTS A SIMILAR INCREASE IN ACTIVITY WITH ALL VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS CONSISTING OF ABF'S AND BOOBY TRAPS. KIEN THIEN DISTRICT WAS THE MOST ACTIVE AREA. THE DISTRICT TOWN WAS HIT BY TWELVE 107MM ROUNDS ON FIVE DIFFERENT OCCASIONS, AND THREE OB'S WERE UNDER HEAVY ABF PRESSURE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK. HOA LUU VILLAGE, VI THUY VILLAGE, AND AN OUTPOST NEXT TO VINH TUAN DONG VILLAGE, ALL IN DUC LONG DISTRICT, WERE SUBJECT TO ABF'S. IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE, ACTIVITY INCREASED SLIGHTLY, AGAIN CONSISTING MOSTLY OF HARASSMENTS AND ABF'S INTO GVN OUTPOSTS. MOST ACTIVE AREAS WERE THE ISLAND REGION OF LONG PHU DISTRICT, MY QUOI VILLAGE IN SOUTHERN NGA NAM DISTRICT, AND THE THANH TRI/HOA TU DISTRICT BORDER AREA. IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY INCREASED AFTER LAST WEEK'S LULL. THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING DROPPED IN KIEN AN DISTRICT BUT INCREASED IN KIEN BINH DISTRICT. THREE KIEN BINH VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS AND THE DISTRICT TOWN CAME UNDER FIRE AND THE VINH THANH VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS WAS ABANDONED WITH THE VILLAGE CHIEF MISSING. TWO OB'S SOUTH OF THE DISTRICT TOWN WERE OVERRUN EARLY IN THE WEEK  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMISTICE, DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, INFILTRATION, TREATY VIOLATION, POW, COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMMUNISTS, COMBAT CASUALTIES  
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**Subject:** VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT APRIL 17-23 1974.  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, MILI, VS, ICCS, PRG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005